

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all previous versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of cementing comprising the steps of:

providing a cement composition comprising a cement, and a dispersant composition, the dispersant composition comprising a surfactant and a hydrolyzed protein;
dispersing at least some of the cement composition;
placing the cement composition in a desired location; and
allowing the cement composition to set therein.

Claims 2–4 (Cancelled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the hydrolyzed protein comprises at least one of the following: a hydrolyzed chitin, a hydrolyzed collagen, a hydrolyzed casein, a hydrolyzed rice protein, a hydrolyzed soy protein, a hydrolyzed wheat protein, or a combination thereof.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the surfactant comprises at least one of the following: an amphoteric surfactant, a zwitterionic surfactant, or a combination thereof.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the surfactant comprises a betaine.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the surfactant comprises a cocobetaine.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the surfactant comprises at least one of the following: a cocoamidoethyl betaine, a cocoamidopropyl betaine, a lauryl betaine, a lauramidopropyl betaine, a palmamidopropyl betaine, a stearamidopropyl betaine, a

stearyl betaine, a lauryldimethyl betaine, a cetyldimethyl betaine, a hydrogenated cocoamidopropyl betaine, a stripped coco(methyl ester)amidopropyl betaine, a derivative thereof, or a combination thereof.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the hydrolyzed protein and surfactant are present in the range of from about a one to ten ratio to about a ten to one ratio of hydrolyzed protein to surfactant.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the hydrolyzed protein and surfactant are present in about a one to one ratio.

Claim 12 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition is a solid, a liquid, an emulsion, or a mixture thereof.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition further comprises a defoamer.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 13 wherein the defoamer comprises[,] at least one of the following: a fatty acid, a vegetable oil, a polypropylene glycol, a HLB surfactant, or a combination thereof.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 13 wherein the defoamer comprises[,] at least one of the following: rapeseed oil, aluminum stearate, "ENVIROGEM®" defoamer, or a combination thereof.

Claim 16 (Original): The method of claim 13 wherein the defoamer is present in the dispersant composition in an amount sufficient to inhibit or prevent foaming.

Claim 17 (Original): The method of claim 13 wherein the defoamer is present in the dispersant composition in the range of from about 0.01% to about 50% by volume of the dispersant composition.

Claim 18 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition further comprises a biocide.

Claim 19 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount sufficient to reduce the apparent viscosity of the cement composition prior to setting.

Claim 20 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount of from about 0.01% to about 6% by weight of cement.

Claim 21 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the cement is a hydraulic cement.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 22 wherein the hydraulic cement comprises at least one of the following: calcium, aluminum, silicon, oxygen, sulfur, or a combination thereof.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 22 wherein the hydraulic cement comprises at least one of the following: a Class A, a Class C, a Class H, or a Class G cement.

Claim 24 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the cement is a low-density cement.

Claim 25 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the cement composition further comprises water that is present in an amount sufficient to allow the cement composition to be a pumpable slurry.

Claim 26 (Original): The method of claim 25 wherein the water comprises fresh water, salt water, or brine.

Claim 27 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein the water component is present in an amount in the range of from about 16% to about 200% by weight of the cement in the cement composition.

Claim 28 (Original): The method of claim 25 wherein the cement is a hydraulic cement, the water component is present in an amount from about 16% to about 200% by weight of the cement in the cement composition, and the dispersant composition is present in an amount in the range of from about 0.01% to about 6% by weight of the cement in the cement composition.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1 wherein the cement composition further comprises at least one of the following: a fluid loss additive, a weighting material, a light weight material, a set retarder, an accelerator, a defoaming agent, a foaming agent, or a combination thereof.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A method of reducing the viscosity of a cement composition ~~comprising the step of adding~~ comprising:

adding to the cement composition a dispersant composition comprising a surfactant and a hydrolyzed protein ~~to the cement composition~~ and;
dispersing at least some of the cement composition.

Claims 31–33 (Cancelled).

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 30 wherein the hydrolyzed protein comprises at least one of the following: a hydrolyzed chitin, a hydrolyzed collagen, a hydrolyzed casein, a hydrolyzed rice protein, a hydrolyzed soy protein, a hydrolyzed wheat protein, or any combination thereof.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 30 wherein the surfactant comprises at least one of the following: an amphoteric surfactant, a zwitterionic surfactant, or a combination thereof.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 30 wherein the surfactant comprises a betaine.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 30 wherein the surfactant comprises a cocobetaine.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 30 wherein the surfactant comprises at least one of the following: a cocoamidoethyl betaine, a cocoamidopropyl betaine, a lauryl betaine, a lauramidopropyl betaine, a palmamidopropyl betaine, a stearamidopropyl betaine, a stearyl betaine, a lauryldimethyl betaine, a cetyldimethyl betaine, a hydrogenated

cocoamidopropyl betaine, a stripped coco(methyl ester)amidopropyl betaine, a derivative thereof, or combinations thereof.

Claim 39 (Original): The method of claim 30 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount sufficient to reduce the apparent viscosity of the cement composition.

Claim 40 (Original): The method of claim 30 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount of from about 0.01% to about 6% by weight of cement.

Claim 41 (Withdrawn): A cement composition comprising a cement, and a dispersant composition wherein the dispersant composition comprises a surfactant and a co-surfactant.

Claim 42 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the surfactant comprises an anionic surfactant.

Claim 43 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the surfactant comprises a hydrolyzed protein.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the surfactant comprises a hydrolyzed keratin.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 40 wherein the surfactant comprises a hydrolyzed chitin, a hydrolyzed collagen, a hydrolyzed casein, a hydrolyzed rice protein, a hydrolyzed soy protein, a hydrolyzed wheat protein, or a combination thereof.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the co-surfactant comprises an amphoteric surfactant, a zwitterionic surfactant, or a combination thereof.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the co-surfactant comprises a betaine.

Claim 48 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the co-surfactant comprises a cocobetaine.

Claim 49 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the co-surfactant comprises a cocoamidoethyl betaine, a cocoamidopropyl betaine, a lauryl betaine, a lauramidopropyl betaine, a palmamidopropyl betaine, a stearamidopropyl betaine, a stearyl betaine, a lauryldimethyl betaine, a cetyldimethyl betaine, a hydrogenated cocoamidopropyl betaine, a stripped coco(methyl ester)amidopropyl betaine, a derivative thereof, or combinations thereof.

Claim 50 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the surfactant and co-surfactant are present in from about a ten to one ratio to about a one to ten ratio of surfactant to co-surfactant.

Claim 51 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the surfactant and co-surfactant are present in about a one to one ratio of surfactant to co-surfactant.

Claim 52 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the dispersant composition is a solid, a liquid, an emulsion, or a mixture thereof.

Claim 53 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the dispersant compositions further comprise a defoamer.

Claim 54 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 53 wherein the defoamer comprises, a fatty acid, a vegetable oil, a polypropylene glycol, a HLB surfactant, or a combination thereof.

Claim 55 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 53 wherein the defoamer comprises, rapeseed oil, aluminum stearate, "ENVIROGEM®" defoamer, or a combination thereof.

Claim 56 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 53 wherein the defoamer is present in the dispersant composition in an amount sufficient to inhibit or prevent foaming.

Claim 57 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the dispersant composition further comprises a biocide.

Claim 58 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 57 wherein the biocide is present in an amount effective to inhibit or destroy microorganisms.

Claim 59 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount sufficient to reduce the apparent viscosity of the cement composition prior to setting.

Claim 60 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the dispersant composition is present in the cement composition in an amount of from about 0.01% to about 6% by weight of cement in the cement composition.

Claim 61 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the cement is a hydraulic cement.

Claim 62 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 61 wherein the hydraulic cement comprises calcium, aluminum, silicon, oxygen, sulfur, or any combination thereof.

Claim 63 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 61 wherein the hydraulic cement is a Class A, Class C, Class H, or a Class G cement.

Claim 64 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the cement is a low-density cement.

Claim 65 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the cement composition further comprises water.

Claim 66 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the water is present in an amount in the range of from about 16% to about 200% by weight of the cement in the cement composition.

Claim 67 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 66 wherein the cement is a hydraulic cement, the water is present in an amount from about 16% to about 200% by weight of the cement in the cement composition, and the dispersant composition is present in an amount in the range of from about 0.01% to about 6% by weight of the cement composition.

Claim 68 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 41 wherein the cement composition further comprises a fluid loss additive, a weighting material, a light weight material, a set retarder, an accelerator, a defoaming agent, a foaming agent, or a combination thereof.

Claim 69 (Withdrawn): A dispersant composition comprising a surfactant and a co-surfactant.

Claim 70 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the surfactant comprises an anionic surfactant.

Claim 71 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the surfactant comprises a hydrolyzed protein.

Claim 72 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the surfactant comprises a hydrolyzed keratin.

Claim 73 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the surfactant comprises a hydrolyzed chitin, a hydrolyzed collagen, a hydrolyzed casein, a hydrolyzed rice protein, a hydrolyzed soy protein, a hydrolyzed wheat protein, or a combination thereof.

Claim 74 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the co-surfactant comprises an amphoteric surfactant, a zwitterionic surfactant, or a combination thereof.

Claim 75 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the co-surfactant comprises a betaine.

Claim 76 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the co-surfactant comprises a cocobetaine.

Claim 77 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the co-surfactant comprises a cocoamidoethyl betaine, a cocoamidopropyl betaine, a lauryl betaine, a lauramidopropyl betaine, a palmamidopropyl betaine, a stearamidopropyl betaine, a stearyl betaine, a lauryldimethyl betaine, a cetyldimethyl betaine, a hydrogenated cocoamidopropyl betaine, a stripped coco(methyl ester)amidopropyl betaine, or combinations thereof.

Claim 78 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the surfactant and co-surfactant are present in from about a ten to one to about a one to ten ratio of surfactant to co-surfactant.

Claim 79 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the surfactant and co-surfactant are present in about a one to one ratio of surfactant to co-surfactant.

Claim 80 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the dispersant composition is a solid, a liquid, an emulsion, or mixture thereof.

Claim 81 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the dispersant composition further comprises a defoamer.

Claim 82 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 81 wherein the defoamer comprises, a fatty acid, a vegetable oil, a polypropylene glycol, a HLB surfactant, or a combination thereof.

Claim 83 (Withdrawn): The method of claim 81 wherein the defoamer comprises, rapeseed oil, aluminum stearate, "ENVIROGEM®" defoamer, or a combination thereof.

Claim 84 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 81 wherein the defoamer is present in the dispersant composition in an amount sufficient to inhibit or prevent foaming.

Claim 85 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 69 wherein the dispersant composition further comprises a biocide.

Claim 86 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 85 wherein the biocide is present in an amount effective to inhibit or destroy microorganisms.